



## MONTANA WATER RIGHTS PROTECTION ACT (MWRPA)

### FACTS:

- **Protects** the water rights of ALL Montanans
- **Permanently relinquishes** 97% of all CSKT's water rights claims **WITH PREJUDICE** across Montana
- **Saves** Montanans and American taxpayers over \$400 MILLION vs. alternative proposals
- **Creates** new, permanent settlement that has the support from Trump administration
- **Affirms** Montanans' Constitutional protection that the water of the State of Montana belongs to all the people for their common benefit (Article IX, Section 3)
- **Prohibits** the sale of water outside the State of Montana
- **Avoids** costly litigation
- **Safeguards** Montanans' due process by giving them access to state courts over water disputes between tribal and non-tribal members
- **Prevents** future bureaucratic overreach that impacts the rights of Montanans
- **Promotes** outdoor recreation and protect Montana's outdoor and agriculture economy
- **Secures** millions of dollars to upgrade and improve water infrastructure for drinking and wastewater facilities
- **Invests** hundreds of millions of dollars for Montana agriculture including rehabilitation of the Flathead Indian Irrigation Project
- **Quantification** of CSKT's water rights

### MWRPA vs. ALTERNATIVE PROPOSALS:

- Reduces settlement costs by \$400 million
- **Permanently relinquishes** 97% of all CSKT's water rights claims **WITH PREJUDICE** across Montana
  - Requires further 2.7% of remaining claims to be co-owned by the state of Montana and the remaining .3% will be limited to protecting fishing habitat by maintaining in stream flows and protecting outdoor economy
- Agreement by CSKT of language affirms Montanans' Constitutional protection that the water of the State of Montana belongs to all the people for their common benefit (Article IX, Section 3)
- Protect Montanans' due process by giving them access to state courts over water disputes between tribal and non-tribal members

### FLATHEAD INDIAN IRRIGATION PROJECT (FIIP):

- Invests hundreds of millions of dollars to rehabilitate on FIIP
- Provides CSKT with \$1.9 billion to settle damages
- Releases all Department of the Interior liens on FIIP Irrigators
- Provides \$10 million in road infrastructure funds to Lake and Sanders Counties on FIIP

### ADMINISTRATION POSITION:

- The Trump administration expressed support for a settlement that avoids litigation
- The previous administration publicly opposed previous legislation